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C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 004645

SIPDIS

BUENOS AIRES PLEASE PASS TO SOA USDEL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/28/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ETRD](#) [KSUM](#) [PE](#)

SUBJECT: PERU PRESSING FOR PRO-FTA STATEMENT FOLLOWING  
MEETING WITH POTUS AT THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

Classified By: Political Counselor Alexander Margulies. Reason: 1.4(b  
/d).

1. (C) Foreign Minister Oscar Murtua, during a 10/28 breakfast hosted by the Ambassador, reiterated Peru's interest in using the meeting at the Summit of the Americas between the Andean Presidents and POTUS to advance the FTA process. The Ambassador noted that USTR Portman is the person who would handle any "political-level" final issues in the FTA negotiation and Peru would be barking up the wrong tree in trying to cast President Bush in such a role. Murtua took the point, but stated that at the very least the GOP would like to see the presidents issue a statement reaffirming their continued strong commitment to conclude an Andean-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. He stressed that the GOP needs a strong "political gesture" to fortify its domestic pro-FTA lobbying efforts and publicity campaign.

2. (C) Murtua added that Peru's delegation to the meeting with POTUS will consist of President Alejandro Toledo, First Lady Eliane Karp (in her function as Presidential Advisor, not/not as First Lady), Prime Minister Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, Murtua himself, and either Foreign Trade Minister Alfredo Ferrero or Peru's Ambassador to Washington Eduardo Ferrero (who is pressing to be included).

STRUBLE